To: McCabe, Janet[McCabe.Janet@epa.gov]

Cc: Shaw, Betsy[Shaw.Betsy@epa.gov]; Jordan, Deborah[Jordan.Deborah@epa.gov]

From: McGrath, Shaun

Sent: Mon 12/14/2015 4:13:28 PM Subject: Weekend Report from R8

Janet,

Below is from my weekend report from yesterday. Also, heads up, I thought I would mention at Senior Leadership call today: 1) that we will be signing the proposed UT Regional Haze plan on Wednesday, and 2) on Thursday, we will have a Consultation with the Ute Tribe regarding Deseret Settlement Agreement, and regarding the Reservation-Specific FIP for Oil & Gas.

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Shaun

Weekend Report from R8

PM2.5 and Utah -- The comment period closed Thursday on EPA's proposed discretionary reclassification for UT's three PM2.5 non-attainment areas to Serious. We received comments from UT and also from several environmental organizations. UT generally supported the proposal, but we received fairly substantial adverse comments from the enviros expressing concern that EPA's proposal is inappropriate because it would allow a delay in the due date for part of the attainment SIPs. We also understand from EPA's Region 10 office, that Idaho commented that they were opposed to having the Idaho portion of the Cache County/Franklin County (ID) non attainment area reclassified now discretionarily. Since the proposal was a discretionary action, EPA does not need to finalize prior to the end of December. If we were to not finalize, the three non attainment areas would be mandatorily reclassifed to Serious by EPA in the spring of 2016 as part of national rule. The national rule would also go through a proposed and final action. There has been quite a bit of media and public interest in this action, and it sounds like Gov. Herbert was growing concerned about becoming the "first" state designated as "serious." On Friday, Carl Daly talked to Bryce in the UT Air Progarm, and Bryce indicated DEQ would likely now be comfortable if we didn't move

forward with the discretionary approach. We will continue to work with UT and OAR, but right now it looks like we will be moving away from discretionary reclassification, and pursue the mandatory.

Shaun L. McGrath

Regional Administrator

EPA Region 8, Denver

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